

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 8, 2001

LB 543

That's all I want to ask you. And I think anybody who looks at this program feels the same way. Now, when people say, as Senator Stuhr did, that they have a higher graduation rate at these private schools, she reinforces what I talked about. And they have produced the worst candidates for teachers in the last three years. A lot of these private schools, all of them, started to serve their own. They didn't start to take in the heathens, the pagans, and the riffraff. When they became cash-starved and could not support themselves, they looked for others who could bring money to them. When poor students started becoming the recipients of federal funds, these private schools had an intensive recruiting effort in ghettos, because they came into ours to get those kids to come to school. But do you know what happened? And it was very funny. I was invited to speak on those campuses, and black and other nonwhite students were somewhat in evidence. But when the federal money dried up, those students began to disappear from those campuses. When they no longer drew federal money, those schools didn't come and recruit them anymore. So I know the opportunism, the utilitarianism and the "exploitiveness" of these private schools. So they don't need to come boasting to me about the nonwhite students who they recruit, because I have dealt with some of them who were dumped from those schools when the federal money dried up, because the schools don't have any money to help them and keep them there. But as long as federal money was coming with them, they were welcome. You have to remember, I'm not...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...a white man in blackface; I'm a black man who knows what's happening in the black community. Did you say "time" or "one minute"? So, before people stand up here and tell me all the good these private schools are doing for black students, come to me and let me tell you about some of the experiences these black kids have on these white campuses in Nebraska at these private schools. There was some school out in York or someplace where a young black woman was sent out of the school because she come...didn't come up with the money; and she was trying to make her way back home to Chicago or someplace. You know who gave her the money? This heathen, and I'm not